

# LOVE IS EVERYTHING

July 27 & 28 GOD IS LOVE



## **LESSON GOAL:**

When the Christians in Corinth were having a hard time following God, Paul wrote a letter to remind them about the importance of loving others.

The goal of this lesson is to help kids understand how important it is to love others, even if it's hard. Without love, nothing matters.

1 Corinthians 13

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

BOLT: Backyard Summer Camp

#### Hike Days!

August 1 - Monument August 3 - Southwest August 10 - Woodmen Heights August 10 - Rockrimmon

For the Reptile Rick series: GOD TRANSFORMS

#### **KEY VERSE**:



Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved.

Romans 10:9, NIRV

## **MISSION FOCUS:**

#### **Feeding Families**

As the school year begins, we want to support families in the Pikes Peak region experiencing food insecurities by donating non-perishable food items.

We will be collecting food items from August 3 - September 1.

#### **Praying for Schools**

We also want to begin praying for teachers, students, and other school staff as we look forward to the 2024-25



school year.

# 25 min

# **CHECK-IN**

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



#### WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.

#### SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, *(insert child/parent name)*! Do you have any offering to put in our offering bin? *(Direct child to offering station).* You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

(*Insert parent name*), do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? (*Respond accordingly*) Enjoy service!

#### 🖌 DO:

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



#### FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.



As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

#### **Examples:**

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

# EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



#### **MAKE: Play-Doh Hearts**

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: Play-Doh. God is Love sticker



Give each child a small container of play doh. Put a God Statement sticker on each container for them to take home.



Today, we get to learn about how God is Love! I want you to try to make your play doh into a heart. Hearts remind us of love. Who do you love? Who do you know that loves you? God loves you and God is love!



#### SAY:

Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson!

- 1. Who is our story about today? Paul and the Corinthians
- 2. What is the problem? People in the church of Corinth started arguing with each other and weren't following God.
- 3. What will God do? Paul wrote a letter to encourage them about the importance of love, just like how God loves us!



#### **CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group**

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

Sing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."





# LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.



#### EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video (Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s)



We're glad to be at church today. We will listen, we will pray. We'll sit quietly in our spot. We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!



PRAY before transitioning to worship.



#### WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

SONG 1: Romans 10:9 Song

SONG 2: Jesus Loves Me



#### **BIBLE STORY**

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



#### WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

In our Bible story today, we learned that God is love! How does God show you He loves you? (wait for responses) Does God keep you safe? Does God give you a family that loves you? Does God care about you? Yes, He does! Let's say, "Thank you, God, for loving me!" and give ourselves a hug. (repeat a few times together)



As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

Friends, may you always remember that God is love! He loves you very much and He teaches you how to love others.

# **BIBLE STORY**



#### **INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON**

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.

#### SAY:

Hi Hamilton! What do you have there? *Hamilton shows item he's holding.* A heart! A heart represents love. What do you love, Hamilton? *Hamilton whispers in your ear.* Oh, you love God? *Hamilton nods and whispers in your ear.* You love your mom and dad and brothers and sisters? *Hamilton nods and whispers in your ear.* You love your friends who are sitting here today? *Hamilton nods.* 

Our Bible story today is all about love. Let's listen to this true Bible story!

# Image: Bible StoryUse the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your<br/>curriculum folder as you read the story.

#### SAY:

Once, there were some people who were fighting. They didn't work together. They didn't share. They didn't show other people love!

A man named Paul, who loved to tell people about Jesus, wrote the people a letter. He wanted to remind them about love. He said, "Love is patient." *Let's be patient. Wait quietly for 1, 2, 3 seconds.* 

He said, "Love is kind." Let's be kind. *Give someone nearby a big smile!* 

Paul told the people all about love. He said, "Love never gives up."

Hamilton, what does it mean to give up? *Hamilton whispers in your ear.* Yes, when we give up, we stop doing something because it isn't working. Maybe something is just too hard, so we need to take a break.

But guess what? Real love doesn't give up! God's love never gives up. God will always love us. God wants us to love other people. God can help us to love other people. God is love!

#### 15 min

# RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



#### SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the kids remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing the hand motions.

#### SAY:

Today our God statement is **God is Love!** Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.



Do the hand motions that go along with the God Statement: **God** (hand vertical in front of face) **is Love** (make a heart with your hands)



If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: Small heart shaped objects



Hide the heart shaped objects around the room. Let the kids hunt for the hearts and return them to you. Repeat!

SAY:

Hearts remind us of LOVE. God is love. He loves us SOOOO much!

#### 15 min

# EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



#### SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



#### GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.



- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body or discuss colors & numbers
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play "Simon Says" or "Follow the Leader"
- Make up a story using figurines or other toys
- Play more music on Plex and let kids follow along with hand motions
- Play "I spy"
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

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# **CHECK-OUT**

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.

## **V** D0:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft, utilize the prayer station or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.